

COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

VOL. XXII. No. 11.] LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 12, 1812. [Price 1s.

321]

[322

SUMMARY OF POLITICS.

GERMAN TROOPS.—In my last I showed what was the *law*, and what *is* the law, with regard to these troops. I have now only to notice a little circumstance that may, possibly, have escaped the attention of the public.—It has before been shown, or, at least, I think so, that the Act of 1804 does not authorize the employing of Germans, or other foreign Officers, in any part of our army; that it does not authorize the giving them any place of trust, civil or military, in any corps, or in any way, *excepting merely in the corps authorized to be formed by that same Act.*—This was what my Lord Folkestone contended for, and this was what could not be contradicted. Upon this ground it was that he complained, that German Officers had been, and still were, employed upon the staff at home; that they had the command of whole districts in England; that they were placed over whole corps and brigades of English troops even in England; that they commanded many of our own general officers in this our own country; that, at last, they had been put into our native corps; that they were getting into the command of our native corps; and that German Soldiers were, even from prisons, inlisting, in considerable numbers, into our regiments, and particularly into one regiment to be hereafter named, while, at the very same time, *Irishmen* were not inlisted into that same regiment.—None of this could be denied, and none of it was denied. *Perceval* contended, indeed, that the Act of 1804 tolerated it, but, *he* once contended that a *volunteer* could not resign, and the judges decided against his opinion. In the case before us his assertion was unsupported by even the *show* of reason. There was not sophistry itself to give him countenance. It was a barefaced falsehood, unsustained by any thing but impudence.—However, be that as it may, it was a fact, that the Germans were thus employed; and now for the particular instance spoken of above. My Lord Folkestone complained, that a considerable number of foreigners had been inlisted out of the prisons into the 10th Regiment of Light Dragoons, then

quartered at Brighton. The fact was acknowledged by Palmerstone and Perceval; but, they said that the said foreigners were *Germans* and not Frenchmen. How this mended the matter it was difficult to perceive; for, these Germans had been made prisoners in the service of the Emperor of France. If they entered his service as volunteers, they were guilty of the *blackest perfidy* in inlisting into our service, and, of course, could be entitled to no trust from us; and if they were put into his service by the law of conscription, they must have been his *subjects*, and, of course, were, in inlisting into our service, guilty of *high treason*, in the same way that our men were, who were found in the service of the Emperor at the Isle of France.—These objections were urged at the time, but never answered. Now, however, it is proper to inquire, whether these men be still in the 10th (or *Prince of Wales's own Regiment*) of Light Dragoons; because, I see it stated in the news-papers, that this regiment is coming to London to supply the place of the *Life Guards*, who are, it is said, to be sent abroad? If this be true, it is a matter of more than curiosity to ascertain to what extent this regiment really is of German growth. The whole of the regiment do, I believe, wear *whiskers*; but, I should like to know how many, or, at least, what proportion, of the regiment are really of German mould.—In the discussion upon Lord Folkestone's motion, it came out, that the senior Lieutenant Colonel, whose name is *QUINTIN*, was a *German*; and, as the Prince himself cannot personally take the command of the regiment, this German is, of course, the real commander of it. So that, if what the news-papers say relative to this exchange of troops, be true, the troops which will perform the duty of *Life Guards* in the metropolis and round the person of the King or his substitute, will have a *German at their head*, and will, in part, be composed of Germans in the ranks, unless those men who were inlisted out of the prisons into the regiment have been since discharged.—I noticed before, that, at the same time that these Germans were taken out of pri-

sons, out of the service of the Emperor of France, to be put into the Prince of Wales's own regiment, there existed in the regiment regulations which forbade the inlisting of *Irishmen*. This fact was stated in the House of Commons, and Colonel Palmer, the junior Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment, avowed that there were instructions given to the recruiting officers, *not to inlist Irishmen*, which instructions must, of course, have proceeded from the PRINCE HIMSELF as *Colonel*, or from Mr. QUINTIN as senior Lieutenant-Colonel.—It is not for me to say positively what were the reasons for preferring Germans taken out of a prison; what were the reasons for preferring Germans taken in the service of France, to the natives of Ireland, who had never been in any service, or in none but that of their own King; what were, or could be, the reasons for this, it is not for me positively to say; but, it is for me to say, because it is my feeling, that I think a thousand Irishmen worth, as soldiers, any five thousand Germans that ever wore whiskers.—However, I shall now, for the present, quit the subject. All I wished to do was, to furnish the means of making it *clearly understood by the public*. Time will do the rest, without any violent efforts on the part of the press. Much must be left to *Time*, and it is great folly for men to fret and chafe themselves, if they can avoid it, because events appear tardy in their progress. Every man ought to *do* what he can; but, it would be best for no man to *attempt* what he cannot do.—The public will, after all, or, at least it ought, to judge for itself. The thing is of no more importance to me than it is to any one else. I shall neither gain nor lose by the employment of Germans.

NORTHERN WAR.—In the present number and the last I insert the Bulletins of the Grand French army as far as they have gone; for, as in all former instances, I am persuaded, they will, in the end, prove to be the true, and the only true, history of the campaign.—These Bulletins are, by our hired prints, said to be *full of falsehoods*. May be so; but, at any rate, the facts which they state do not appear to receive any positive contradiction; and, one thing we are certain of, that the places, whence they are dated, are *the real places where Napoleon is at the time of dating them*. This being the case; this fact being undeniable, we know that *the French army get nearer and nearer to the capital of the Russian Empire*; and, with this fact star-

ing us in the face, we shall hardly be such brutes as to be persuaded, that Napoleon has been experiencing reverses.—The hirelings of the press tell us, that his army has been beaten here and beaten there; that the Russians have killed so many thousands and wounded so many thousands; nay, they have already (according to our hired writers) killed and wounded more men than Napoleon has in his army. But, while all these Russian *victories* are going on, the Emperor advances towards Moscow, and the Czar goes thither before him! Odd proofs of Russian victories! But we are a *thinking* people. The most thinking people in all Europe. We are so profound; our noddles lead us so deep, that we can see proofs of victories in those very circumstances where the less thinking people of Europe can discover nothing but defeats.—In the Peninsula, indeed, we see with different eyes. There our thinking faculties lead us to perceive proofs of defeat in the retreat of the French. Our General is got on to Madrid; he is got into the heart of Spain, and the French have retreated before him. These we take for indubitable proofs of victory on our part and of defeat on the part of the French. It is curious to observe how differently we thinking people reason with regard to what is passing in different parts of Europe! In the North, to retreat is a symptom of victory; in the South it is a sure mark of defeat. We did not, indeed, *always* reason thus as to the operations of the armies in the South. There was a time when Talavera retreated, and with such rapidity as hardly to take time to look behind him. We did not *then* look upon a retreat as a mark of defeat; no, but we sang victory at every spot where our army stopped and turned round and made a momentary stand; and, we asserted, that our retreat was by *design*; that it was in consequence of a plan laid for *drawing the enemy on*, though we can now discover no possibility of there being such a design on the part of the French Marshals in Spain.—So that, upon the whole, this appears to be our notion; that, when we or our allies retreat before the French, then to retreat is a mark of victory; and that, when the French retreat before us, or our allies, then to retreat is a mark of defeat. This is the notion inculcated by our hired writers, who form at least five-sixths of the newspaper editors in London, and, indeed, in the counties; and this is the notion which their readers in general have adopted. Oh! we are as the sinecure placeman, Lord

Stormo
"think
ever, w
scriptio
observa
themse
is.—
peror I
mies b
who ha
subject
her cap
other c
and wh
I now
of the
and th
he has
—N
his hav
any of
I woul
ther th
being
reason
ally c
seen th
ful in
driven
wick
people
we sho
land d
York i
not, o
descri
fair en
Helde
the pe
maine
mies c
had p
part o
the ot
licans
there
his ra
—
and o
confes
Russia
Italy
Holla
short,
tal, in
army
still g
cow,
as far
be in

Stormont, said; indeed we are "a most *thinking people!*"—To those, however, who are not of this very thinking description, I would beg leave to make an observation or two that may tend to make them see the situation of Russia as it really is.—Russia has been invaded by the Emperor Napoleon, who has driven her armies before him from fortress to fortress, who has set free a whole kingdom of her subjects, who has made a progress towards her capital such as was never made by any other commander in a similar space of time, and who (as will be seen by the documents I now insert) has received the benedictions of the people whom he has first conquered and then set free, or, in other words, whom he has withdrawn from the power of Russia.

—Now, reader, are there here marks of his having been *defeated*? Are there here any of the signs of a baffled project? And, I would ask the Morning Chronicle, whether there are here any signs of Napoleon being "*a tyrant,*" as that print is (for reasons best known to the editor) continually calling him?—We have usually seen that an invading army, if not successful in the end, has been soon met and driven back. When the Duke of Brunswick invaded France, we saw the gallant people rise and beat and drive him out, as we should, I hope, see the people of England do to an invader. When the Duke of York invaded Holland, we saw what I need not, or, at least, what I do not choose, to describe; but, at any rate, we saw the affair end by the famous Convention of the Helder. When Napoleon invaded Italy, the people did not drive him out. He remained in the country, or, at least, his armies did, till he had conquered Italy, and had placed a king upon the throne of one part of it, and had made himself king of the other part. When the French republicans invaded Holland, they remained there; they drove out the Stadtholder and his race, and made the country their own.—These are instances of unsuccessful, and of successful, invasion; and, I must confess, that, at present, the invasion of Russia appears to me to resemble that of Italy under Napoleon rather than that of Holland under the Duke of York. In short, I see the Czar hastening to his capital, instead of remaining at the head of his army to face Napoleon, and I see the latter still getting on nearer and nearer to Moscow, marching through a country, which, as far as he has hitherto gone, appears to be inhabited by people ready to receive

him as their deliverer, instead of rising upon him as an hostile tyrant.—In the meanwhile, however, it is not *certain*, that he will succeed in his views against Russia. He himself is not certain of it. Though he has gained greater victories, and several of them, since he left Paris, than we have gained in Spain; though he has done as much in one month as all our armies and Generals have been able to do in twenty years, still he is not *sure* of final success; and, therefore, this is, I repeat it, the time to offer him terms of peace; and, indeed, if this be not now done, it will be in vain for any one to contend, that peace can ever be made, without the extermination of Napoleon, or of our system of rule.

DEATH OF NAPOLEON. — The hired news-writers in London have, for about the fiftieth time, spread a report of the Death of Napoleon; and, though some of them have stated their doubts of the fact, they have all spoken of it as of *an event most ardently to be desired*. In short, they have shown, that his death would be to them a subject of joy as great as that of the death of Perceval was to the people of Nottingham, Sheffield, Leicester, Westminster, Truro, &c. &c., who expressed their joy by signs the most unequivocal, and in whose joy I myself most cordially participated. And *why*? Why did so many people in England rejoice at Perceval's death? For the same reason, to be sure, that many would rejoice to hear of the death of Napoleon; namely, because they would regard it as *a good thing for the country*. To Perceval's death we owe, in all probability, the repeal of the Orders in Council; the abandonment of the Marylebone barracks; and some other measures very much to the advantage of the country. The people of Nottingham and elsewhere felt that these benefits were likely to result from his death, and, therefore, they rejoiced, and not from the bloody-mindedness, which the hirelings in London had the baseness to ascribe to them and *to the whole of the working classes in England*. — Since that time these very writers, in speaking of American affairs, have observed, that *when the news of Mr. Perceval's death should arrive*, they expected the American government *to put a stop to its warlike proceedings*. Here they confessed that they themselves expected that death to produce a most beneficial effect for the country; they not only thought this, but they said it; and yet had they the impu-

dence and the baseness to ascribe the joy of the people of Nottingham to a *bloody-minded disposition*.—I was glad to hear of the death of Perceval, because I thought it would tend to the good, to the safety, the honour, the happiness, the freedom, of my country. I neither killed him nor abetted any one in killing him, nor did I do any thing to rescue the man who had killed him. I took the event as it came, and believing most sincerely, being thoroughly convinced, that it would produce good to England, I rejoiced at it. When I can be convinced that the death of Napoleon will be good for England; when I can be made clearly to see how his death will tend to the honour, the happiness, the freedom of Englishmen, I shall stand prepared to rejoice at his death. At present there is no such conviction in my mind; and, therefore, his death does not appear to me to be a thing to wish for or rejoice at; and I believe, that hundreds of thousands of those, who are so anxious to hear of his death, have never duly considered, nor, indeed, at all considered, the effects which it would probably produce with regard to England.—There are some persons, and, indeed, the greater number, who wish for his death, who desire to see the Bourbons restored and all the old despotism re-established in France. These persons would, of course, wish to see the whole of Europe and of the world in the most wretched slavery, and, therefore, they could have no objection to its coming here; but, there are others who wish for the death of Napoleon, who do not wish to see England as well as the rest of the world in chains; and, it is for these persons to consider what might *possibly* be the effect of the sudden death of this powerful man, whose existence prevents any attempt to revive the old despotisms of Europe. He has, upon the Continent, crushed all the ecclesiastical tyranny, except in Russia and Spain; and, will any man, and especially any Englishman, say that he would like to see that tyranny revived? Lord Sheffield, in his report to the Wool-farmers, says that this country suffers in its competition with *neighbouring countries* on account of our lands being *tithed*. His Lordship must allude to France; and, therefore, he, at least, who is a very *loyal* man, can hardly wish to see *tithes restored in France*; unless, indeed, he can be supposed to be actuated by a spirit similar to that of the jockey who lamed his neighbour's horse to bring it down to a level with his own.—

There is a REV. C. COTTON, who, as the news-papers inform us, has written a *poem* to persuade the French not to fight under Napoleon any longer. The Morning Chronicle quotes the following verses of this poem, and says, that it perfectly agrees in the *sentiment*.

But think not, France, we wish to see restor'd,
Thy trembling vassal, and thy feudal lord,
The grinding impost, and the tort'ring wheel,
The horrific letter, and the mute Bastile:
Britain too well the sweets of freedom knows,
And deprecates oppression e'en to foes.

But in thy fickle clime no medium reigns:
Must thou be forging still, or wearing chains?
Still in extremes of heat or darkness groan?
Nor find in Albion, freedom's temp'rate zone!
Here still her fruits by Patriots planted, spring,
The King a speaking law! the Law a silent King!

What "*sentiment*" here is that the Morning Chronicle agrees in I do not know; but, I do know, that a Frenchman might give the Rev. Poet an answer that he would not much like, as for example: 'Rev. Sir, 'since when, I pray you, has it been right, 'according to *your creed*, for subjects to 'resist their sovereign; and, without such 'resistance, how are we to follow your 'advice? As to the question whether 'Napoleon be our *lawful* sovereign, you 'have settled that by acknowledging him 'as such at the peace of Amiens and at the 'Convention of Cintra; and, you are not 'now, when it suits your own purpose, to 'persuade us that he is not our legitimate 'sovereign; you are not, one day, to treat 'with him as our lawful ruler, capable of 'disposing of the territories and honours 'of France, and the next day to call upon 'us to resist him and destroy him as a '*foreigner* and an *usurper*; besides that it 'is very impudent in you, or any of your 'countrymen, to talk in this strain.—It 'will be quite soon enough, Rev. Sir, for 'you to go into the particulars of what you 'wish to restore in France, when we shall 'be disposed to suffer you, or any body 'else, to restore any thing in France; but, 'since you have touched upon the subject, 'let me ask you what you mean by telling 'us, that you wish us to imitate you, and, 'at the same time, that you do not wish 'to restore the "*grinding impost*," &c. ' &c.? You mean, I suppose, that you 'would not give us the *gabelle* again, and 'other *grinding* imposts; but would merely lay on us the Excise and Customs and 'Assessed and Land and Property Taxes; 'you would only make us pay ten per 'centum out of our income after having collected a tax upon the land and upon al-

'most
'man.
'grindi
'Excise
'howev
'of fo
'death,
'smugg
'not g
'would
'hangin
'before
'bowel
'heads
'placin
'the k
'agree
'and e
'tryme
'had,
'quitte
'of thi
'as su
'in mi
'whic
'about
'they?
'the w
'of C
'supp
'of th
'Impr
'Sir.—
'thing
'and
'pecte
'whic
'the
'It is
'telling
'resto
'list
'more
'toget
'rath
'men
'know
'can
'his
'othe
'We
'to k
'lific
'that
'tion
'Rev
'stor
'this
'tha
'bec

‘most every article of use to the life of
‘man. You would not restore any thing
‘grinding, and would merely give us your
‘Excise and Custom-House laws, which,
‘however, have provided the punishments
‘of *forfeiture, fine, imprisonment, and*
‘*death*, for different degrees of offence in
‘*smuggling*.—And, Rev. Sir, you would
‘not give us the “*torturing wheel* ;” but
‘would, doubtless, content yourself with
‘hanging us by the neck, cutting us down
‘before we were dead, ripping out our
‘bowels before our faces, chopping off our
‘heads, cutting us into four quarters, and
‘placing those quarters at the disposal of
‘the king that you would put over us,
‘agreeably to the sentence lately passed
‘and executed upon some of your coun-
‘trymen, who, strange as it may seem,
‘had, at the Isle of France, voluntarily
‘quitted the service of your king for that
‘of this very Napoleon whom you describe
‘as such a terrible tyrant; or, perhaps,
‘in minor cases, you would give us that
‘which Sir Francis Burdett has said so much
‘about. These are what you would give us, are
‘they? Thank you, Rev. Sir; we will take
‘the will for the deed.—In place of Letters
‘of Cachet and a Bastile, you would, I
‘suppose, give us occasional suspensions
‘of the Habeas Corpus Act and Solitary
‘Imprisonment. Thank you again, Rev.
‘Sir.—But, Rev. Sir, there are two
‘things, and those of great importance,
‘and such too as you might have been ex-
‘pected to have uppermost in your mind,
‘which you have wholly omitted; I mean
‘the **GAME LAWS** and **THE TITHES**.
‘It is surprising, that, when you were
‘telling us of what you did *not* wish to
‘restore, you should have left out of your
‘list these two grievances, which were
‘more powerful than all the others put
‘together in producing our revolution, and
‘rather than see which restored, French-
‘men would perish to the last. *Now* we
‘know and feel, that no man in France
‘can be prevented from killing game upon
‘his own land or upon the land of any
‘other man by that other man’s consent.
‘We know, that, in France, to be able
‘to kill, or possess, game requires no qua-
‘lification of any sort; and, we also know,
‘that no man’s crop is liable to a deduc-
‘tion of a tenth part. Why did you not,
‘Rev. Sir, assure us that *you would not re-*
‘*store tithes*? Why did you not give us
‘this assurance, of more importance to us
‘than ever, because so many of us are now
‘become proprietors of the soil? I’ll tell

‘you why, Rev. C. Cotton; I’ll tell you
‘why you did not give us this assurance;
‘it was because it would have let the peo-
‘ple, the “most thinking people,” of
‘England into the secret, that we have no
‘tithes to pay, while they have; that we
‘have, by our revolution, got rid of tithes;
‘and this is a secret that you did not wish
‘to communicate to that thinking people,
‘that “most thinking people.”—This
‘one article, Rev. Sir, might have solved
‘your question: “**WHAT ARE**
‘**FRENCHMEN FIGHTING FOR?**”
‘They are fighting because they would
‘not be *restored* to their former state.
‘They are not fighting for “a *Corsican* ;”
‘they are not fighting for “an *usurper* ;”
‘they are not fighting for “an *upstart* ;”
‘they are fighting for *no game laws, no*
‘*tithes, no gabelle, no corvée, no feudal,*
‘*ecclesiastical or regal tyranny*; and
‘though they submit to the commands of
‘one of themselves placed at their head,
‘they feel that all that nine-tenths of them
‘possess is held by the same tenure that he
‘holds his authority.’—This answer
‘would, I imagine, puzzle the Rev. C.
‘Cotton a little. But, indeed, I question
‘whether he knows any thing at all of the
‘state of France. He, perhaps, has taken
‘up his notions wholly from the hired news-
‘papers, which have been constantly in the
‘habit of publishing false accounts of the
‘state of that country, and which, upon this
‘subject, have promulgated his till their
‘editors, probably, believe them to be true.
‘The Rev. Poet seems to be as much out in
‘his geography as in his political views;
‘and, to be sure, it must make Frenchmen
‘laugh to see an Englishman pitying them
‘on account of the *fickleness* of the *climate* of
‘their country; but, even this is not quite
‘so absurd as an attempt to persuade a whole
‘nation of proprietors of land, that it is
‘*better* for them to have a tenth part of their
‘crop taken from them than to retain the
‘whole crop. In a parson one might have
‘excused an assertion that it was *as good*;
‘but an attempt to make them believe that
‘it was *better* was too much to go down.
‘—There is one view of the subject, I
‘mean of the consequences of the death of
‘Napoleon, that the friends of our system
‘never seem to take. They always appear
‘to suppose, that, if he were to die, or be
‘killed, there would be a *great change*, and
‘I think there can be no doubt of that; but
‘then, they rush on to a further conclusion,
‘and take it for granted, that that change
‘would be in favour of the restoration of the

old government, in which, I think, they are deceived. The first consequence of the death of Napoleon would, in all human probability, be a state bordering upon anarchy; but, the *republic* would revive. The republicans would again bear sway; and, if we had good memories, we should be very well assured, that much was not to be gotten by the change. If our stomach for fight did not get the better of our recollection, we should not be exceedingly glad to see a new race of Jourdain and Pichegrus and Brunes come forth against us. The *people* of Europe would see such a change with feelings that I need not describe; and their sovereigns would, in my opinion, have more ground for apprehension than they now have. Therefore, it appears to me *possible*, to say the least of it, that the death of Napoleon is what no high-flying royalist ought to wish for; or, at least, that, if he should hear of that death, he ought to moderate his joy. —I have, however, I must confess, another principle according to which I judge of the good or evil of Napoleon's death. I see all the hireling news-writers expressing their anxiety to hear of his death: I perceive that his death is wished for by all those whom I know to be the country's worst enemies; by all those who hate every thing like freedom in the country, by all the sons and all the daughters of corruption. And, as I cannot refrain from believing, that they wish him dead because they think that his death will be *good for them*, and, as I am convinced that whatever is for their good must be injurious to the country, I conclude that the death of Napoleon would be injurious to England, and, thereupon, I make up my mind to wish that he may live. —I know that I shall be abused for this; but I comfort myself with the reflection, that *to revile is not to refute*. I have given my opinion very frankly, and shall not be offended with any one who may differ from me. *I do not wish for the death of Napoleon.* That I say distinctly.

PAPER AGAINST GOLD.—The rise in the price of bullion has created some little alarm; but, the time is not yet come. The war in the Peninsula, and a few more subsidies; these will settle the matter in due course. The Gold is now sold at *Five pounds and five shillings an ounce*, and the Silver at *Six shillings and eight pence an ounce*. The real value of the former is £3. 17s. 10^d. and of the latter 5s. 2^d.

—And yet, I dare say, that Mr. George Chalmers would undertake to set up an affected horse-laugh at any one who should say, that the paper was *depreciated*! —Here is a clear depreciation of more than 30 per centum. Nobody but Mr. Chalmers or somebody in pay will deny this. And this is the grand object to keep one's eye upon. At this rate about 65 or 66 *LIGHT guineas* are worth a hundred pounds in *Bank of England paper*. Nay, though there is a law against selling full-weight guineas for Bank of England paper, there is no law against selling them for *country bank paper*; so that people may, and they do, sell them daily and hourly, and the last stragglers are now going out of the country. —I have 64 guineas; I want to sell them; I sell them for £100. in country bank notes. That done I go to the country bank and make them change their notes into London Bank notes; and thus is my operation as complete as if I had sold them at once for Bank of England Notes. —I know, that there are people who laugh at this, and say that *all will come about again*. That it certainly will; but, it must all undergo the *proper process*. Things are not *restored* without a process. The paper is *going down*. It must go lower yet; and, afterwards, things will, in one shape or another, take a new turn. —I know of a **REMEDY**. I have said so before. But, I will not tell the remedy. I have as much right to keep my secret to myself as any other possessor of valuable secrets. I would rather tell it to Mr. Vansittart than to such a man as Perceval; but, I will not tell it yet. When the *pinch* comes I will make it known. —Suffice it, for the present, to say, that I have never yet seen *my remedy* so much as hinted at in print. My remedy is a *strong* one; but, if ever applied, it will be *efficacious*, I'll warrant it. Whenever the proper time comes, I will make a fair bargain with the public: *no cure, no pay*. But, perhaps, it may be thought "*base lucre*" in me to sell my remedy. Very well, then, shall I say, I'll keep my remedy to myself, and keep you your disease. You cannot get my remedy out of me, if you were to rip me up. —People may laugh at these pretensions of mine; but they will, if we live but a little longer, see that these pretensions have some foundation. I say I could tell the ministers how to cure the depreciation; I say I could tell them how to set all to rights again. I say I *will not* tell them how to do it; and if they laugh at me, I

can lau
war a
come
Others
many
to say
Notes

Bolley

AMERI
Priv
Stat

1.
the Ac
concer
Prize
annex
The h
sion,
tend to
ception
three
peace
United
cute y
the sh
Britain
jurisdi
to do.
regard
usages
procee
to giv
ruption
ascert
detaim
adjudi
partic
of usi
depriv
their
milita
Towa
are to
war
which
are a
or mo
to a
after
the p
be ex
or pr
ladin
liver



can laugh at them. Let them go on with war and subsidies, and they will soon come to my shop I warrant them.—Others have written upon this subject, and many have well written; but the first man to say, in print, in England, that Bank Notes were depreciated, was

WM. COBBETT.

Bolley, 9th September, 1812.

PUBLIC PAPERS.

AMERICAN STATES.—*Instructions for the Privateer Armed Vessels of the United States.*

1. The tenour of your commission, under the Act of Congress, entitled, "An Act concerning Letters of Marque, Prizes, and Prize Goods," a copy of which is hereto annexed, will be constantly in your view. The high seas referred to in your Commission, you will understand generally to extend to low water mark, but with the exception of the space, neither one league nor three miles from the shore of countries at peace both with Great Britain and the United States; you may, nevertheless, execute your commission, rather than detain the shore of a nation at war with Great Britain, and even on the waters within the jurisdiction of such nation, if permitted so to do.—2. You are to pay the strictest regard to the rights of neutral powers, and usages of civilized nations; and in all your proceedings towards neutral vessels, you are to give them as little molestation or interruption, as will consist with the right of ascertaining their neutral character, and of detaining and bringing them under regular adjudication, in proper cases. You are particularly to avoid even the appearance of using force or seduction, with a view to deprive such vessels of their crews and of their passengers, other than persons in the military service of their country.—3. Towards every vessel, and their crews, you are to proceed in exercising the rights of war with all the justice and humanity which characterizes the nation of which you are a member.—4. The Master, and one or more of the principal persons belonging to a captured vessel, are to be sent, soon after the capture, to the Judge or Judges of the proper Courts of the United States, to be examined on oath touching the interests or property of the captured vessel and her lading; and, at the same time, are to be delivered to the Judge, or Judges, all passes,

charter-party, bills of loading, invoices, letters, and other documents and writings, found on board; the said papers to be provided by the affidavit of the Commander of the captured vessel, or some of the persons present at the capture, to be produced as they are received, without fraud, addition, subduction, or embezzlement.—By the command of the President of the United States,

JAMES MONROE, Secretary of State.

An Act to prohibit American Vessels from proceeding to or trading with the Enemies of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That no ship or vessel, owned in whole or in part by a citizen or citizens of the United States, shall be permitted to clear out or depart from any port or place within the limits of the United States, or territories thereof, to any foreign port or place, till the owner, agent, factor, freighter, master, or commander shall have given bond, with sufficient security, in the amount of such ship or vessel, and cargo, not to proceed to or trade with the enemies of the United States. And if any ship or vessel, owned as aforesaid, shall depart from any port or place within the limits of the United States, or territories thereof, for any foreign port or place, without giving bond with security aforesaid, such ship or vessel, and cargo, shall be forfeited to the use of the United States; and the owner or owners, freighter, factor, or agent, master, or commander, shall severally forfeit and pay a sum equal to the value of such ship or vessel, and cargo; and the said master or commander, if privy thereto, and being thereof convicted, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and imprisoned for a term not exceeding twelve months, in the discretion of the Court.—Sect. 2. And be it further enacted, That if any citizen or citizens of the United States, or person inhabiting the same, shall transport or attempt to transport, overland or otherwise, in any waggon, cart, sleigh, boat, or otherwise, naval or military stores, arms, or the munitions of war, or any article of provision, from any place of the United States, to any place in Upper or Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, or New Brunswick, the waggon, cart, sleigh, boat, or the thing by which the said naval or military stores,

arms, or munitions of war, or articles of provisions, are transported or attempted to be transported, together with such naval or military stores, arms, or munitions of war or provisions, shall be forfeited to the use of the United States, and the person or persons aiding or privy to the same, shall severally forfeit and pay to the use of the United States, a sum equal in value to the waggon, cart, sleigh, boat, or thing, by which the said naval or military stores, arms, or munitions of war, or articles of provision are transported, or are attempted to be transported; and shall moreover be considered as guilty of a misdemeanour, and be liable to be fined in a sum not exceeding 500 dollars, and be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months, in the discretion of the Court: provided that nothing herein contained shall extend to any transportation for the use or on account of the United States, or the supply of its troops or armed force.—Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the Collectors of the several ports of the United States be, and the same are hereby authorized to seize and stop naval and military stores, arms, or the munitions of war, or any articles of provision, and ship or vessel, waggon, cart, sleigh, boat, or thing by which any article prohibited as aforesaid is shipped or transported, or attempted to be shipped or transported, contrary to this act.—Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That no ship or vessel belonging to any citizen or citizens, subject or subjects of any state or kingdom in amity with the United States, except such as at the passing of this act shall belong to the citizen or citizens, subject or subjects, or such a state or kingdom, or which shall hereafter be built in the limits of a state or kingdom in amity with the United States, or purchased by a citizen or citizens, subject or subjects of a state or kingdom in amity with the United States aforesaid, from a citizen or citizens of the United States, shall be admitted into any port or place of the United States, unless forced by a stress of weather, or for necessary repairs; and any ship or vessel belonging to a citizen or citizens, subject or subjects of any state or kingdom in amity with the United States aforesaid, except such ships and vessels as are above excepted, which shall, from and after the first day of November next, enter or attempt to enter, any port or place aforesaid, the same, with her cargo, shall be forfeited to the use of the United States.—Sect. 5. And be it further enacted, That any British packet or

vessel with dispatches destined for the United States, and which shall have departed from any port or place in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or its dependencies, on or before the 1st day of September next, shall not be liable to be captured or condemned, but the same shall be permitted to enter and depart from any port or place in the United States; provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to affect any cartel or vessel with a flag of truce.—Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to give, at any time within six months after the passage of this act, passports for the safe transportation of any ship or other property, belonging to the British subjects, and which is now within the limits of the United States.—Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That every person, being a citizen of the United States, or residing therein, who shall receive, accept, or obtain a license from the Government of Great Britain, or any officer thereof, for leave to carry any merchandise, or send any vessel in any port or place within the dominions of Great Britain, or to trade with any such port or place, shall, on conviction for every such offence, forfeit a sum equal to twice the value of such ship, merchandise, or articles of trade, and shall moreover be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour, and be liable to be imprisoned not exceeding twelve months, and to be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars.

H. CLAY,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WM. CRAWFORD,

President of the Senate, *pro tempore*.

Approved, JAMES MADISON.

July 6, 1812.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

French account of the Battles of Salamanca and Castella.

BARCELONA, Aug. 1.—On the 27th of July, at three o'clock in the morning, an expedition, consisting of the brigades Lamarque, Devaux, and Clement, marched from this, and arrived in the evening at Martorell. Orders were then given to the troops to march all night, and to attack Monserrat at the break of day. Some musket shots discharged by the sentinels of the insurgent army apprized the enemy of our approach, and at day-light we found our-

selves
Casa
was c
tions
trend
and p
troop
vent,
recen
road
Engl
herm
the co
ble.
notw
stones
Angl
show
Chiel
the co
but t
the p
The c
rere,
every
on on
front
noyed
of m
ant, C
the b
ment
ment
of th
cular
solute
progr
enem
stroy
acros
the I
the s
the fo
mand
swer
then
ginee
our t
be pl
been
regim
rived
on th
was c
ries,
They
shot
tione
kept
favou

selves in front of the entrenched position of Casa Masana, where the corps of Manso was drawn up in order of battle. Dispositions were instantly made to carry the entrenchments. The enemy was overthrown and pursued to the gates of Manresa. Our troops then moved rapidly upon the convent, the approaches to which had been recently strengthened with works. The road is commanded by a fort which the English had caused to be constructed at the hermitage of St. Dimas, higher up than the convent, in a position almost inaccessible. Our troops passed under the fort, notwithstanding the multitude of balls, stones, and fragments of rocks which the Anglo-Catalan regiment stationed there showered down upon them. M. Lafaille, Chief of the battalion of Engineers, entered the convent with the foremost of the troops; but they were continually under the fire and the projectiles from the fort of St. Dimas. The column of the Chief of Battalion Sarre, advancing by Colbato, drove away every enemy that opposed it, and arrived on one of the points of the mountain in front of the fort, from which it greatly annoyed the garrison by a well-supported fire of musketry.—The Adjutant Commandant, Ordonneau, and M. Lafaille, Chief of the battalion of Engineers, with a detachment of the Voltigeurs of the 111th regiment of the line, clambered up to the gate of the fort, by steps cut nearly perpendicularly in the rock, and in which a few resolute men would have easily arrested the progress of the strongest columns. The enemy called in their outer posts, and destroyed the bridge which led to the fort across a precipice. Major Chevalier, of the 11th of the line, then advanced upon the summits of the rocks situated in front of the fort, and summoned the English Commander to surrender; but received an answer in the negative. General Clement then directed Lafaille, Commandant of Engineers, to reconnoitre the position in which our two pieces of mountain cannon would be placed with advantage. These guns had been brought by 150 men of the third light regiment, of the 11th and 115th, and arrived at the position at two in the morning on the 29th. The remainder of the night was employed in the construction of batteries, which began to play at day-break. They were placed within less than musket-shot from the fort. Our voltigeurs, stationed in the highest points of the rocks, kept up a continual fire on the works, and favoured the action of the artillery. The

enemy was disconcerted by so unexpected an attack, and consented to capitulate. By the capitulation, which was signed by the Adjutant Commandant Ordonneau, Chief of the Staff, and the English Colonel Green, the garrison were to be prisoners of war, and to be conducted to Barcelona.—The loss of the enemy has been very considerable, as well at the attack of Casa Masana as at that of the fort of Dimas, of Colbato, and Menistrol. These actions will have the most fortunate results; they have been extremely brilliant for all the troops, which clambered up, under the enemy's fire, those rocks which appeared to be inaccessible. The 29th and 30th were employed in destroying and blowing up the fort, the works of the enemy, and a part of the Convent. Thus the insurgents, who had prepared one of the finest religious edifices in christendom, by transforming it into a fortress, and in making it an arsenal and a depot for all articles necessary for war, are alone to blame for the destruction of this celebrated monument, the object of the ancient veneration of the people.—We have brought to Barcelona the English Colonel Green, one Lieutenant-Colonel, 15 officers, and 260 non-commissioned officers and privates of the Anglo-Catalan force, which were formed, paid, and commanded by the English. This was the basis of that corps on which the authors of the Catalonian insurrection founded their greatest hopes.

VALENCIA, *July 20.*—For a considerable time past, a combined attack upon the army of Arragon, and a descent upon the coasts either of Catalonia or Valencia, has been contemplated at Majorca and Alicant. On the 10th, the Marshal Duke d'Albufera had an interview at Reus with the Commander in Chief Decaen. The junction of their columns upon the coast drove Lacy off, and frustrated the expedition from Majorca. A part of the fleet was separated from the whole. On his return to Valencia, on the 12th, the Marshal found Villacampa at the gates of Lina, with 1,000 men; while Passecour, at the head of 1,500, was employed in the attack of Cossentes and Reguena; and Ouda and Segorba were menaced by a small body of troops. His Excellency ordered General La Fosse to march with the 121st, the 8th Neapolitan, and some cuirassiers; at the head of these he routed the enemy. In the mean time the army of Murcia, which had effected a junction, and had been reinforced, seemed dis-

posed to attack in front of Xucar. On the 21st, an English fleet of ten sail, of which four were ships of the line and four frigates, and the remainder sloops and transports, appeared before Valencia, and having the wind in their favour, passed rapidly on from Denia to Cullera, between the mouths of the Xucar and the Albufera, seeming as if they were just about to land, and keeping up a fire on the forts, which in return fired on them. The Marshal Duke of Albufera immediately adapted measures for their repulse. He recalled Gen. La Fosse from Reguena, and the 121st from Segorba. The 14th proceeded with all possible speed from Aleira to Cullera; and the 4th hussars, the artillery, and a part of the 1st light battalion, and the 114th, made a forced march in the night to the part of the coast which had been menaced.—Towards the evening, by good luck, quite unexpected, the wind changed suddenly, and blew with such violence from the east, that the fleet, after having passed the night in vain efforts, was obliged to luff and bear away on the 22d. In the course of the night the Commander in Chief visited the coast, and made himself the various dispositions of the troops.—At the same time General Harispe, at the head of the 2d division, had advanced before Alcoy, in presence of the army of Murcia; the 1st brigade to Castella, under the orders of General Delort, and the second to Ibi, commanded by Colonel Mesilop. General Harispe, foreseeing the attack, had chosen a central position, where the troops were to rendezvous and receive it. From the former evening the movements of the enemy were known, and the necessary arrangements made. On the 21st, by day-break, the Commander in Chief, Joseph O'Donnel, at the head of four columns, attacked Delort, who, pursuant to his instructions, retired *en echelon*, and called in upon the point fixed upon the camps of Biar and Oiull. No sooner was the first shot fired than Colonel Mesilop, whose troops were ready, and under arms, marched to join General Delort, when he was himself attacked by a corps of 6,000 men, commanded by the English General Roche, who had come by Xixona. With the assistance of the guns in the little fort of Ibi, with the voltigeurs of the 44th, and a handful of cuirassiers, he stops the progress of the enemy as they are passing a ravine, and repulses them; but faithful to his orders, he leaves some companies to observe the motions of the enemy with the garrison of

the fort, and proceeds immediately to the field of battle, while General Harispe is calling in, from Alcoy, the reserve of the artillery and the cuirassiers, and the flank companies of the 116th.—Gen. O'Donnel had made a brisk attack. General Delort, who had taken up an advantageous position, kept up a heavy and severe fire with his artillery. The 24th dragoons, when they arrived on the right, hung upon the left wing of the enemy, who were much harassed in consequence, and brought up two field-pieces against the cavalry as they marched. In the mean time, Colonel Mesilop having arrived on the left, General Delort did not think proper to delay any longer. The troops expected this time with confidence, and on the signal being given, as fiery as they had before been cool, they rushed upon the enemy on all sides, the cavalry and artillery in a trot, and the infantry making a running charge. Colonel Bubessi leads the dragoons straight forward against the battery which was playing on them with grape. It is carried in an instant, the artillerymen are put to the sword, a brigade of infantry, who supported the guns, are attacked at the same onset, broken, and made prisoners. The infantry and the cuirassiers at the same time make their way into Castella, carrying every thing before them. They complete the rout of the enemy's entire line, which flies on all sides. The streets of Castella are strewn with dead bodies, and Reramberger, the commandant of a battalion, compels 400 men, who have taken refuge in the citadel, to lay down their arms.—After this brilliant success, Colonel Mesilop hastily returns to Ibi with his column. The enemy was in the village, he attacks and overthrows him, and drives him beyond the ravine, leaving behind him a great number of killed and prisoners; then assembling his forces, he pursues him from position to position across the rocks, till the reserve of the 116th appearing upon the mountains in his rear, complete his defeat.—The loss of the enemy in this affair is supposed to be as much as 3,600 in killed, wounded, and prisoners. The Brigadier General Laban, and several officers of rank, are among the killed; among the prisoners are four Colonels, five Lieutenant-Colonels, 125 officers of minor rank. We have not lost more than 233 killed and wounded.—Colonel Mesilop, whose conduct during the whole action was highly praiseworthy, had his horse killed under him. Generals, officers, and soldiers, all performed

their duty with the utmost zeal, and contributed to the success of this glorious day. —The head-quarters of the Duke of Albufera are now at Cullera.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

NORTHERN WAR. — *Bulletins of the Grand French Army.* — *Fifth Bulletin, (continued from page 318.)*

to the right, and made for Ochmiana. General Baron Pajol arrived at that place with his light cavalry at the moment when Doctorow's advanced vanguard entered it. General Pajol charged. The enemy was sabred and overthrown in the town; he lost 60 men killed and 18 prisoners. Gen. Pajol had five men killed and some wounded. This charge was made by the 9th regiment of Polish lancers. — Gen. Doctorow, seeing his route intercepted, fell back upon Olchanoni. Marshal the Prince of Eckmuhl, with a division of infantry, the Cuirassiers of the division of Count de Valence, and the second regiment of light cavalry of the guard, moved upon Ochmiana, in order to support General Pajol. — The corps of Doctorow, thus cut off and driven towards the South, continued to prosecute the movement on the right by forced marches, with the sacrifice of its baggage. Upon Smoroghoni, Danowchoff, and Robouilncki, whence he made for the Dwina. This movement had been foreseen. Gen. Nansouty, with a division of Cuirassiers, the division of Light Cavalry of Count Bruyere, and Count Moraand's division of infantry advanced to Mikailitchki, with a view to cut off this corps. He arrived on the 3d at Swin, at the time when it passed that place, and pushed it briskly. He took a large number of waggons, and obliged the enemy to abandon some hundreds of baggage-carts. — The uncertainty, the anxiety, the marches, and counter-marches which these troops had endured, the fatigues which they had undergone, must have made them suffer severely. — Torrents of rain fell during thirty-six hours, without intermission. The weather has suddenly changed from extreme heat to very severe cold. Several thousand of horses have perished by the effects of this sudden transition. Convoys of artillery have been stopped by the mud. — This terrible storm, which has fatigued both men and beasts, has unavoidably retarded our march; and the corps of Doctorow, which successively fell in with the columns

of General Borde Sault, of General Pajol, and General Nansouty, has narrowly escaped destruction. — Prince Bagration, with the 5th corps stationed more in the rear, marches towards the Dwina. He set out on the 30th of June from Wolkowitsk to Minsk. — The King of Westphalia entered Grodno the same day. The division Dombrowski passed it first. The Hetman Platow was still at Grodno with his Cossacks. When charged by the light cavalry of Prince Poniatowski, the Cossacks were dispersed in every direction. Twenty were killed and 60 made prisoners. — At Grodno were found materials for 100,000 rations of bread and some remains of magazines. — It had been foreseen, that Bagration would have fallen back upon the Dwina, by drawing as near as possible to Dunabourg; and the General of Division, Count Grouchy, had been sent to Bogdanow. He was on the 3d at Trabmi. Marshal the Prince of Echmuhl, reinforced by two divisions, was on the 4th at Wichnew. If the Prince Poniatowski had vigorously pressed the rear-guard of Bagration, that corps would have been endangered. — All the enemy's corps are in a state of the greatest uncertainty. The Hetman Platow was still ignorant on the 30th of June, that Wilna had been two days in the possession of the French. He took the direction towards that city, as far as Lida, at which place he changed his route, and moved towards the South. — The sun during the whole of the 4th re-established the roads. Every thing is now organizing at Wilna. The suburbs have suffered by the vast crowds of people that rushed into them during the continuance of the tempest. There was a Russian apparatus there for 60,000 rations. Another has been established for an equal number of rations. Magazines are forming. The head of the convoys arrives at Kowno by the Niemen. Twenty thousand quintals of flour, and a million rations of biscuit, have just arrived here from Dantzic.

Sixth Bulletin of the Grand French Army.
Wilna, July 11, 1812.

The King of Naples continues to follow the enemy's rear-guard. On the 5th he met the enemy's cavalry in a position upon the Dwina. He caused it to be charged by the brigade of light cavalry, commanded by General Baron Subervie. The Prussian regiments, the Wirtembergers and Poles, which form a part of this brigade, charged

with the greatest intrepidity. They overturned a line of Russian dragoons and hussars, and took 200 prisoners, with their horses. When they arrived on the other side of the Dwina, they broke down the bridges, and showed a disposition to defend the passage of the river. General Count Montbrun then brought up his five batteries of light artillery, which, during several hours, carried destruction into the ranks of the enemy. The loss of the Russians has been considerable. — General Count Sebastiani arrived on the same day at Vidzoni, whence the Emperor of Russia had departed on the preceding evening. — Our advanced guard is upon the Dwina. — General Count Nansouty was, on the 5th of July, at Postavoni. In order to pass the Dziana, he proceeded six miles farther on the right of the King of Naples. The General of brigade, Roussel, with the 9th regiment of Polish light cavalry, and the 2d regiment of Prussian hussars, passed the river, overthrew six Russian squadrons, sabred a great number, and took 45 prisoners, with several officers. General Nansouty praises the conduct of General Roussel, and mentions, with commendation, Lieutenant Borke, of the Prussian hussars, the Sub-Officer Kranse, and the hussar, Lutze. His Majesty has granted the insignia of the Legion of Honour to General Roussel, and to the Officers and Sub-officers above-named. — General Nansouty took 130 Russian mounted hussars and dragoons prisoners. — On the 3d of July the communication was opened between Grodno and Wilna by Lida. The Hetman Platoff, with 6,000 Cossacks, when driven out of Grodno, moved towards Lida, and found there the French posts. He descended to Ivie on the 5th. — General Count Grouchy occupied Witchnew, Traboni, and Soubotnicki. General Baron Pagol was at Perchia; General Baron Bade Soult was at Blackchtoni; Marshal the Prince of Eckmuhl was in advance of Bobrowitzki, pushing heads of columns in every direction. — Platoff retreated precipitately on the 6th, to Nikolaew. — Prince Bagration having set out in the beginning of July from Wolkowisk on his route for Wilna, was intercepted in his march. He turned back with a view to reach Minsk; anticipated there by the Prince of Eckmuhl, he altered his direction, gave up his intention of proceeding towards the Dwina, and moved towards the Boristhene, by Bobruisk, across the marshes of Beresina. — Marshal the Prince of Eckmuhl entered Minsk on the

8th. He found there considerable magazines of flour, hay, clothing, &c. Bagration had already arrived at Novoi-Sworgiew: perceiving that he was anticipated, he sent orders to burn the magazines; but the Prince of Eckmuhl did not give time for effecting these orders. — The King of Westphalia was on the 9th at Nowogrodek; General Regnier at Konina: magazines, baggage waggons, quantities of medicines, and straggling parties, fall into our hands every instant. The Russian divisions are straying in these countries without any previously arranged route, pursued on every side, losing their baggage, burning their magazines, destroying their artillery, and leaving their places without defence. — General Baron Colbert took, at Vileika, a magazine of 300 quintals of flour, a hundred thousand rations of bread, &c. He found also at Vileika a chest containing 200,000 francs, in copper money. — All these advantages have scarcely cost the French army a man. Since the opening of the campaign there have been but about thirty killed in all the corps, about 100 wounded, and ten prisoners; whilst we have already taken from 2,000 to 2,500 Russian prisoners. — The Prince of Schwartzenberg passed the Bug at Droghitschin, pursued the enemy in different directions, and made himself master of many baggage carts. The Prince of Schwartzenberg praises the reception he has met with from the inhabitants, and the spirit of patriotism which animates these countries. — Thus, ten days after opening the campaign, our advanced posts are upon the Dwina. Almost the whole of Lithuania, containing four millions of inhabitants, has been conquered. The operations of the war commenced at the passage of the Vistula. The projects of the Emperor were from that time plainly unfolded, and he had no time to lose in carrying them into execution. Thus, the army has been making forced marches from the period of passing that river, in order to advance by means of manœuvres upon the Dwina, for the distance between the Vistula and the Dwina is greater than that between the Dwina and Mosiere or Petersburg. The Russians appear to be concentrating themselves upon Dunaburg: they give out that it is their intention to wait for us and to give us battle before we enter their ancient provinces, after having abandoned Poland without a contest; as if they were constrained by justice, and had wished to restore a country badly acquired, is as much

as it had not been gained by treaties, or by the right of conquest.—The heat continues to be very violent.—The people of Poland are in motion on all sides. The White Eagle is hoisted every where. Priests, nobles, peasants, women, all call for the independence of their nation. The peasants are extremely jealous of the happiness of the peasants of the Grand Duchy, who are free; for, whatever may be said to the contrary, liberty is considered by the Lithuanians as the greatest blessing. The peasants express themselves with a vivacity of elocution, which would not seem to belong to the climates of the North, and all embrace with transport, the hope that the result of the struggle will be the re-establishment of their liberty. The peasants of the Grand Duchy have gained by their liberty, not that they are richer, but that the proprietors are obliged to be moderate, just, and humane; because otherwise the peasants would quit their lands in order to seek better proprietors. Thus the noble loses nothing; he is only obliged to be just, and the peasant gains much. It must be an agreeable gratification for the heart of the Emperor, to witness, in crossing the Grand Duchy, the transports of joy and gratitude which the blessing of liberty, granted to four millions of men, has excited.—Six regiments of infantry are just ordered to be raised by a new levy in Lithuania, and four regiments of cavalry have been offered by the nobility.

Acts relative to the Organization of Lithuania.

ORDER OF THE DAY.—Article I. There shall be a Provisional Government of Lithuania, composed of seven Members and a Secretary General.—II. The Commission of the Provisional Government of Lithuania shall be charged with the administration of the finances, with the care of the means of subsistence, with the organization of the troops of the country, with the formation of the national guards, and of the *gens-d'armie*.—III. There shall be an Imperial Commissioner with the Commissioner of the Provisional Government of Lithuania.—IV. Each of the Governments of Wilna, Grodno, Minsk, and Bialistock shall be administered by a Commission of three Members, with an Intendant presiding.—V. These Administrative Commissions shall be under the orders of the Provisional Commission of the Government of Lithuania.—VI. The Administration of each District

shall be confided to a Sub-Prefect.—VII. There shall be in the city of Wilna a Mayor, four Assistants, and a Municipal Council, composed of twelve Members. This Administration shall be charged with the management of the property of the city, with the superintendence of the Charitable Establishments, and with the Municipal Police.—VIII. A national guard, consisting of two battalions, shall be formed at Wilna. Each battalion shall have six companies. This national guard shall be organized in the following manner:—ETAT-MAJOR. One Commandant, two Chiefs a Battalion, two Adjutant-Majors, one Quarter-Master, two Adjutant Sub-Officers, one Drum-Major, three Master Artificers, one Surgeon-Major, one Assistant Surgeon, eight Musicians (22).—COMPANIES. One Captain, one Lieutenant, one Sub-Lieutenant, one Sergeant-Major, four Sergeants, one Corporal Quarter-master, four Corporals, two Drummers, and 100 soldiers, making, in each Company, 119. The strength of the two battalions 1450.—IX. There shall be in each of the Governments of Wilna, Grodno, Minsk, and Bialistock, a corps of *gendarmerie*, commanded by a Colonel, having under his orders, those of the Governments of Wilna and Minsk, two Chiefs of squadrons; those of the Governments of Grodno and Bialistock, one Chief of a squadron. There shall be a company of *gendarmerie* in each district. Each Company shall be composed of one Captain Commandant, one Second Captain, one First Lieutenant, two Second Lieutenants, one principal Quarter-master, four Quarter-masters, sixteen Brigadiers, eighty volunteer *gens d'armes*, and one trumpeter, total 107.—X. The Colonel of *gendarmerie* shall reside at the chief seat of the Government. The residence of the officers, and the stationing of the brigades, shall be determined by the Provisional Commission of the Government of Lithuania.—XI. The officers, sub-officers, and volunteers of the *gendarmerie* shall be taken from the gentlemen proprietors of the district: no one can be exempted. They shall be appointed, viz. the officers by the Provisional Commission of the Government of Lithuania: the sub-officers and volunteers by the Administrative Commission of the Governments of Wilna, Grodno, Minsk, and Bialistock.—XII. The Polish uniform shall be that of the *gendarmerie*.—XIII. The *gendarmerie* shall perform the service of the police; it shall support the public authority; and shall arrest traitors, marauders,

and deserters of whatever army.—XIV. Our Order of the Day of the — of last June shall be published in each Government, and there shall consequently be established in each a Military Commission.—XV. The Major-General shall appoint a General or Superior Officer, either French or Polish, of the troops of the line to the command in each Government. He shall have under his orders the national guards, the gendarmerie, and the troops of the country. (Signed) **NAPOLEON.**

*Imperial Head-quarters, Wilna,
July 1, 1812.*

[Then follow a number of other Orders of the Day, of the same date, appointing the several Members of the Provisional Commissioners of Government, &c.]

Warsaw, July 7.—His Highness, Prince Poniatowski, General in Chief of the Fifth Corps of the Grand Army, has addressed to the Poles, who are under his command, the following Order of the Day:

Head-quarters, Baygodo, July 6.

SOLDIERS!—In communicating to you the Proclamation of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, I am convinced of the sentiments with which you will reply to his appeal, and that you will readily perceive that a new field is opening to you, in which you will cover yourselves with glory. Already in two wars you have had an opportunity of recognizing the restorer of your country, and of laying the foundation of the glory of the Polish army. I have no doubt that, forming as you do in the present war, in the grand army, a corps, which this powerful Protector has himself denominated the Army of Poland, and which is to decide the fate of many millions of Poles, your countrymen, you will then prove yourselves worthy of the French, in conjunction with whom we fight, as well as of those projectors which have, during so long a period, formed the object of our wishes, and which now begin to be put in execution for us. We ought, then, to redouble our efforts. Let no fatigues, no privations, enfeeble the warlike spirit which we have inherited. We shall once more prove to the whole world that the sacred name of country renders its real children invincible.

Posen, July 11.—Different corps of troops are continually passing through our city on their way to the Grand Army. Yesterday the Saxon regiment of "low" infantry arrived here; one part of it was quartered in the city, and the rest in the villages in the environs. Within the last three months, from the 1st of April to the

30th of June, our city has had quartered upon it, 7 Marshals, 73 Generals, 416 Officers on the Staff, 3,642 Officers, 89,613 Sub-officers and privates, and 10,902 horses.

Berlin, July 14.—On the 11th of this month, his Highness the Prince of Orange set out for Vogelsdorf, on his way to Breslau. According to the most recent intelligence from the army, the few Swiss regiments were stationed in the environs of Marienwerder, a short distance from Dantzic.—In the place where the Dwina and the Niemen approach nearest to each other, that is to say, from Dunaburg to Kowno, the distance of these two rivers asunder is twenty German miles.

Wilna, July 11.—*Extract from the Lithuanian Courier. — Proclamation of the Provisional Committee to the Lithuanians.*

CITIZENS—For the space of twenty years a foreign Government has communicated its orders to us in language with which we are unacquainted. Listen now to the voice of your brothers; listen to the voice of Poles addressing you in the Polish language. Return thanks to Providence, which evidently manifests its beneficent designs towards you, through Napoleon the Great. His coming, like that of the Sun, before which the ice dissolves, has dissipated every obstacle, and his benign accents, while they awake the joy of hope in our bosoms, fill us with sentiments of the most ardent gratitude.—By the Order of the Day of the 4th of July, by which a Provisional Government has been constituted, we are enabled to call upon you to partake our sentiments. Can there be any more reasonable ground for exultation than the hope of seeing our country once more take her rank amongst the nations?—You shall be witnesses of our solicitude to assuage your evils, and lessen, as much as possible, the calamities of war. The sacrifices we shall call on you to make will be but slight, when put in comparison with the benefits we shall procure you. Having promised thus much, we declare that we have been installed as a Provisional Government, and we invite all our fellow-citizens to enter upon the necessary relations with us.

Signed by the Members of the Commission.

The Provisional Commissioners of the Government of the Duchy of Lithuania to the Clergy of the Diocese of Wilna.

The principles of the religion of the Lithuanian people are well known. They have been well inculcated by a wise and

enlightened clergy. — The Provisional Government cannot better announce to the people the benignity of the Great Napoleon, who has been led by Providence into Lithuania, nor choose a better channel to make them acquainted with the amelioration of their lot, than by confiding this great interest to the Clergy. — We therefore order the people to assemble for the purpose of returning thanks to God, who has been graciously pleased to send us this saviour of Poland, and to pray that he will further the successes of his arms. — The Clergy will afterwards endeavour to cherish proper sentiments in the people, so that, supported by their religion, they may continue with their agricultural labours. — The peasantry must not be remiss in the performance of their duty. Their safety and happiness depend thereon. — They may discover in the abundant harvest before them, the evident assistance afforded by Providence to Napoleon the Great. — Let them peaceably gather in their crops, as in ordinary times. Circumstances even require an increase of zeal, and it cannot be doubted, that with the feelings by which they appear to be now actuated, but that they will be eager to shew the utmost. — *Done the 7th July, 1812.*

SIGNED BY THE COMMISSIONERS.

July 15. — We still enjoy the presence of His Majesty, who rides out every day, attended by a very few persons. — The day before yesterday His Majesty gave audience to the Polish Deputies, the Senators Warvedon, Wibiski, Wladislaus, Count Jarousky, &c. They have been commissioned by the General Confederation of Poland to bear their homage to His Majesty. They were presented by His Excellency the Duke of Bassano, Minister of Foreign Affairs. The President of the Deputation, the Senator Warvedon Wybiski was spokesman. — The answer of His Majesty was couched in the most gracious terms. — The same day, the 11th, some inhabitants of the Duchy of Samogitia, M. M. Bilwuz, Bralosewo, Jellemshy, and other Officers, having at their head, the old Marshal of the Court of Zietgua, had the honour of being admitted to His Majesty's presence, they assured him how much the Samogitians wish to partake in the honour enjoyed by their brethren at Wilna. — His Majesty conversed with them on all matters, relating to the interests of their country. — Our city was never so brilliant as it has been for the last 15 days. The greatest of

Sovereigns is resident within its walls, within which also are assembled the principal citizens of our country. A youthful and impetuous race have arranged themselves under the Polish Eagles; it is here proper to mention the names of those zealous children of Lithuania who were the first to take arms and equip themselves at their own expense. In the guard of honour we find Prince Oginski, its chief; Count Plater, M. M. Pilgudski, Briot Bemco, Romer, Chlewiski — (here follows several other Polish names). — In the Lithuanian Guard, commanded by Brigadier KonoPhill, we find M. M. Magelonki, Narbut, and Michalowisk, completely equipped. A great number of young persons are busily employed equipping themselves. We have no doubt but that the Lithuanians will seek the opportunities to distinguish themselves as the gallant fellows of the regiment, commanded by Count Knadinski, did at Som, Sierra, and Benevente. — The Bishop of Korakowski has had the honour of being twice brought to Court to say mass in the Imperial Chapel. He received a diamond ring as a present. The Priests who accompanied him had also presents. — The grand national festival was celebrated here yesterday with universal enthusiasm. — At eleven o'clock all the Clergy were assembled in the porticos of the Church, to receive the Constituted Authorities. — At noon a numerous procession, consisting of the Members of the Provisional Commission, the Deputies of the Grand Confederation, the Commission of Administration, the Members of the Tribunals, the Sub-Prefect, the Mayor, the Municipality, the Guard of Honour, the Officers of the Gendarmerie of the City, finally, of all the Public Functionaries, arrived at the Cathedral, where they were introduced by the Clergy. — Bishop Korakowski officiated; when Te Deum was sung, the President of the Provisional Commission delivered a very eloquent discourse, and published the Act of Confederation of Poland. When the reading of the Act was over, cries of "Long live the Emperor Napoleon the Great," a thousand times repeated, filled the spacious arches of the church. — *Salvum fac imperatorem Napoleonem*, — was then sung; after this ceremony all the authorities proceeded to the residence of His Excellency the Duke of Bassano, to present to him the Act of Confederation, and beg that he would submit it to His Majesty. — It was announced the same day that the

(*To be continued.*)

ENGLISH LIBERTY OF THE PRESS,

As illustrated in the Prosecution and Punishment of

WILLIAM COBBETT.

351]

IN order that my countrymen and that the world may not be deceived, duped, and cheated upon this subject, I, WILLIAM COBBETT, of Botley, in Hampshire, put upon record the following facts; to wit: That, on the 24th June, 1809, the following article was published in a London news-paper, called the **COURIER**:—"The Mutiny amongst the **LO-CAL MILITIA**, which broke out at Ely, was *fortunately* suppressed on Wednesday by the *arrival* of four squadrons of the **GERMAN LEGION CAVALRY** from Bury, under the command of General Auckland. Five of the ringleaders were tried by a Court-Martial, and *sentenced to receive 500 lashes each*, part of which punishment they received on Wednesday, and a part was remitted. *A stoppage for their knap-sacks* was the ground of the complaint that excited this mutinous spirit, which occasioned the men to surround their officers, and demand what they deemed their arrears. The first division of the German Legion halted yesterday at Newmarket on their return to Bury."—That, on the 1st July, 1809, I published, in the **Political Register**, an article censuring, in the strongest terms, these proceedings; that, for so doing, the Attorney General prosecuted, as seditious libellers, and by Ex-Officio Information, me, and also my printer, my publisher, and one of the principal retailers of the **Political Register**; that I was brought to trial on the 15th June, 1810, and was, by a Special Jury, that is to say, by 12 men out of 48 appointed by the Master of the Crown Office, found guilty; that, on the 20th of the same month, I was compelled to give bail for my appearance to receive judgment; and that, as I came up from Botley (to which place I had returned to my family and my farm on the evening of the 15th), a Tipstaff went down from London in order to seize me, personally; that, on the 9th of July, 1810, I, together with my printer, publisher, and the news-man, were brought into the Court of King's Bench to receive judgment; that the three former were sentenced to be imprisoned for some months in the King's Bench prison; that I was sentenced to be imprisoned for two years in Newgate, the great receptacle for malefactors, and the front of which is the scene of numerous hangings in the course of every year; that the part of the prison in which I was sentenced to be confined is sometimes inhabited by felons, that felons were actually in it at the time I entered it; that one man was taken out of it to be transported in about 48 hours after I was put into the same yard with him; and that it is the place of confinement for men guilty of unnatural crimes, of whom there are four in it at this time; that, besides this imprisonment, I was sentenced to pay a thousand pounds **TO THE KING**, and to give security for my good behaviour for seven years, myself in the sum of 3,000 pounds, and

[352

two sureties in the sum of 1,000 pounds each; that the whole of this sentence has been executed upon me, that I have been imprisoned the two years, have paid the thousand pounds **TO THE KING**, and have given the bail, Timothy Brown and Peter Walker, Esqrs. being my sureties; that the Attorney General was Sir Vicary Gibbs, the Judge who sat at the trial Lord Ellenborough, the four Judges who sat at passing sentence Ellenborough, Grose, Le Blanc, and Bailey; and that the jurors were, Thomas Rhodes of Hampstead Road, John Davis of Southampton Place, James Ellis of Tottenham Court Road, John Richards of Bayswater, Thomas Marshall of Baker Street, Robert Heathcote of High Street Marylebone, John Maud of York Place Marylebone, George Bagster of Church Terrace Pancras, Thomas Taylor of Red Lion Square, David Deane of St. John Street, William Palmer of Upper Street Islington, Henry Favre of Pall Mall; that the Prime Ministers during the time were Spencer Perceval, until he was shot by John Bellingham, and after that Robert B. Jenkinson, Earl of Liverpool; that the prosecution and sentence took place in the reign of King George the Third, and that, he having become insane during my imprisonment, the 1,000 pounds was paid to his son, the Prince Regent, in his behalf; that, during my imprisonment, I wrote and published 364 Essays and Letters upon political subjects; that, during the same time, I was visited by persons from 197 cities and towns, many of them as a sort of deputies from Societies or Clubs; that, at the expiration of my imprisonment, on the 9th of July, 1812, a great dinner was given in London for the purpose of receiving me, at which dinner upwards of 600 persons were present, and at which Sir Francis Burdett presided; that dinners and other parties were held on the same occasion in many other places in England; that, on my way home, I was received at Alton, the first town in Hampshire, with the ringing of the Church bells; that a respectable company met me and gave me a dinner at Winchester; that I was drawn from more than the distance of a mile into Botley by the people; that, upon my arrival in the village, I found all the people assembled to receive me; that I concluded the day by explaining to them the cause of my imprisonment, and by giving them clear notions respecting the flogging of the Local Militia-men at Ely, and respecting the employment of German Troops; and, finally, which is more than a compensation for my losses and all my sufferings, I am in perfect health and strength, and, though I must, for the sake of six children, feel the diminution that has been made in my property (thinking it right in me to decline the offer of a subscription), I have the consolation to see growing up three sons, upon whose hearts, I trust, all these facts will be engraven.

WM. COBBETT.

Botley, July 23, 1812.

Published by R. BAGSHAW, Brydges-Street, Covent-Garden.

LONDON: Printed by J. M'Creery, Black-Horse-Court, Fleet-street.